

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the Abstract beginning at line 2 of page 17 as follows (making the entire abstract into a single paragraph):

External skin preparations with a sun-screening effect are frequently blended with an ultraviolet absorbent octyl methoxycinnamate together with ultraviolet reflectors titanium oxide and zinc oxide in powder. The skin irritation of octyl methoxycinnamate is enhanced when blended with the powders of titanium oxide and zinc oxide and the like. It is an object of the invention to provide an external skin preparation capable of reducing the skin irritation. [[

]] The external skin preparation is an external skin preparation containing octyl methoxycinnamate, titanium oxide and/or zinc oxide in powder and polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside and/or polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside.